

Coded Cities Forecast Table
Product Description Document
6/05/03

Part I - Mission Connection

- a. Description of Product - The National Weather Service's (NWS) Coded Cities Forecast (CCF) Table provides a graphical representation of digital/graphical forecasts of maximum temperature, minimum temperature, probability of precipitation, sky condition, and weather.
- b. Purpose - The Coded Cities Forecasts are derived from forecast weather parameters found in the text/digital based (CCF). The CCF is primarily intended for use by users in automated retrieval of forecast parameters. This format may be difficult for much of the general public to read and interpret. Therefore, in an effort to support NWS Strategic Plan and its goal to provide graphical weather products, the CCF has been reformatted into a graphical product that is easier to interpret and understand.
- c. Intended Audience - The target audience for this experimental graphical product is the general public. The product is available to anyone who has an Internet connection. Since this product is in the public domain, it can be acquired by intermediaries, repackaged, and re-transmitted in accord with standard NWS product use policies. Using advances in computer capabilities, as well as scientific advances to create customer-based products and services, the National Weather Service, through the Graphical CCF, strives toward the following goals:
 - ▶ provide customers with forecast information that is easy to interpret and understand
 - ▶ provide timely and readily accessible forecast information
 - ▶ improve and standardize the graphical presentation format of public weather forecast information
- d. Presentation Method - The Graphical CCF is a web based graphical product displayed as a series of tables composed of iconic images and alphanumeric weather forecast data.
- e. Feedback Mechanism - We are always seeking to improve our products based on user feedback. An OMB approved form may be used to submit comments about this new product. It is available on or within the web site containing the experimental product.

Technical comments for the Graphical CCF product developer may be addressed to:
 Experimental Graphical CCF
 National Weather Service Eastern Region Headquarters
 Attn: Graphical CCF Program, ER1
 630 Johnson Ave
 Bohemia, NY 11716

Part II - Technical Description

- a. Format & Science Basis - The Graphical CCF is composed of forecast information in digital form and iconic images displaying forecast parameters for maximum temperature, minimum temperature, probability of precipitation, sky condition, and weather. This product is shown in Figure 1.

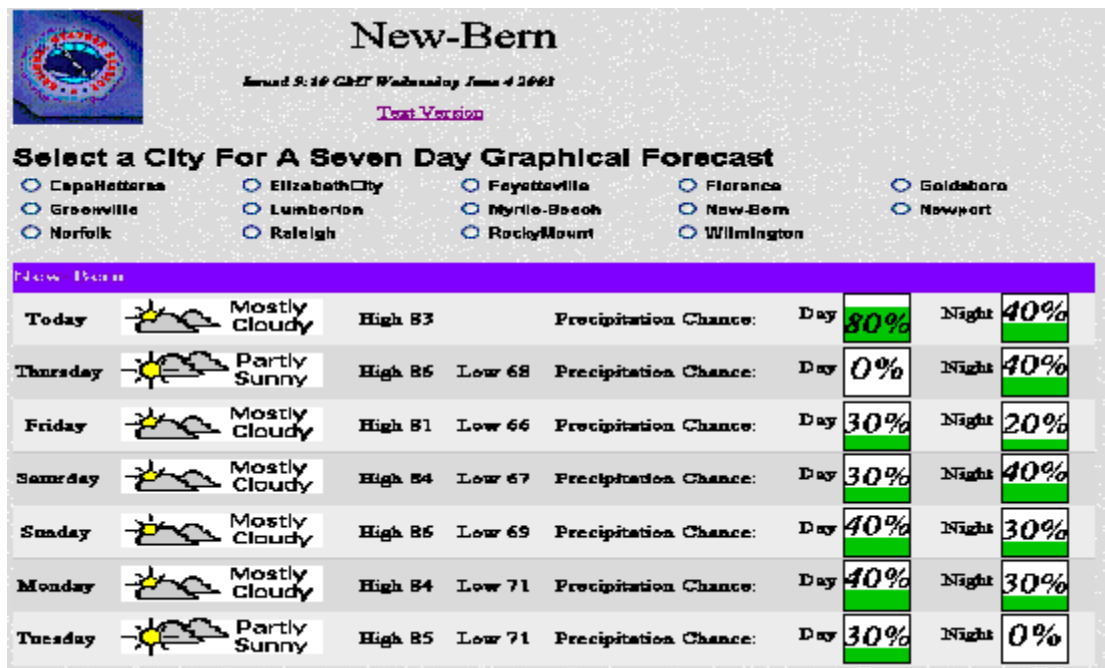


Figure 1. Graphical Coded Cities Forecast.

- b. Product Availability - The Graphical CCF is routinely issued within 30 minutes of the two mandatory forecast packages produced between 1:30 and 5:30 am/pm local time. However, updates may be issued at any time as conditions warrant. When the Graphical CCF is issued, a local application program runs automatically which reformats the CCF into hypertext markup language (HTML). The product is then transmitted automatically to the Internet server hosting the local NWS home page. When displayed with an Internet browser, graphical forecasts for up to seven days in advance can be viewed. These products are compliant with the 1998 Amendment to Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act.
- c. Other Details -

- (1) The Graphical CCF Program was created by WFOs Binghamton, NY and WFO Wilmington, NC
- (2) Refer to NWSI 10-503, WFO Public Weather Forecast Products Specification for a technical description of the Coded Cities Forecast (CCF) product.